

Attorney Docket No.: 20341/69447
PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: James M. KAIN Conf. No.: 7148
Serial No.: 10/074,798 Group: 3636
Filed: February 13, 2002 Examiner: Stephen A. Vu
For: VEHICLE ANCHOR SYSTEM FOR JUVENILE-SEAT BASE

#6
DN
9/24/03

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION MAILED JULY 30, 2003

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The interview with examiner Stephen A. Vu on September 15, 2003 is acknowledged with appreciation. The examiner's interview summary record is a correct statement of the substance of the interview wherein it was agreed that independent claims 1 and 16 avoid the prior art of record. The other independent claim, claim 25, is allowed as indicated in the office action.

Claim 1 is directed to a seat mount for use with both a vehicle seat and anchor mounts provided in or near the vehicle seat.

The reference to Edwards (U.S. Patent No. 5,479,892) is directed to a vehicle safety seat for pets and not to a seat mount as recited in applicant's claim 1. In applicant's claim 1 the seat mount comprises a base adapted to be coupled to a juvenile seat, an anchor belt including a strap, opposite end portions, and a clasp coupled to each end portion and adapted to be coupled to one of the anchor mounts, and a leash coupled to the base and to the anchor belt.

Edwards safety seat for pets rests on a vehicle seat and is not adapted to be coupled to a juvenile seat. Edwards' strap B is not an anchor belt as recited in applicant's claim 1 and there is no disclosure in Edwards of a clasp at each end and adapted to be coupled to one of the anchor mounts. Finally, Edwards' does not have a leash coupled to the base and to the anchor belt. Edwards' belt 40 is loosely joined to the safety seat and is movable with respect to belt B. As seen in Fig. 1 of Edwards the safety seat is held from going forward, but appears to be able to move laterally along the seat and with respect to belt B.

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Applicant's claim 16 is directed to a seat mount comprising a vehicle anchor system coupled to the base bottom and adapted to be coupled to anchor mounts, the system being movable between an anchored position where a portion of the system is received through openings to position the base in a rearwardly facing position on the vehicle seat and a stowed position where a portion of the system is received within a storage compartment, the vehicle anchor system remaining coupled to the base during movement between the anchored position and the stowed position.

Edwards has a single position, not two positions. In Edwards there is an anchored position, but no stowed position where a portion of the system is received within a storage compartment and the anchor system remains coupled to the base during movement between the anchored and stowed positions.

The examiner's attention is directed to the information disclosure statement filed September 15, 2003 (copy provided to the examiner at the interview) citing U.S. Patent No. 6,592,183. It is asked that the examiner initial the form PTO-1449 so that the '183 patent will be cited on the face of the ensuing patent.

The election of Group I, claims 1-6, 9-14 and 16-21 is affirmed. In view of the allowability of all independent claims it is urged the restriction is moot.

For all of the above reasons, this response places all of the claims in allowable form. Accordingly, allowance of the present application is, respectfully, requested.

If there are any issues remaining to be resolved, the examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned so that such issues can be promptly resolved.

It is respectfully requested that, if necessary to effect a timely response, this paper be considered as a Petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response and shortages in other fees, be charged, or any overpayment in fees be credited, to the Account of Barnes & Thornburg, Deposit Account No. 02-1010 (20341-69447).

Respectfully submitted,
BARNES & THORNBURG



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BARNES & THORNBURG

Attorneys at Law

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HAND DELIVER TO: EXAMINER STEPHEN A. VU
U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

FACSIMILE: (703) 872-9306

DATE: September 15, 2003

FROM: Richard B. Lazarus, Barnes & Thornburg

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Applicant: JAMES M. KAIN

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